2. From certain pots the light was excluded for 2–2.5 hours per day during periods of 11–19 days in all.

3. The shading of the plants took place between June 12 and July 25, and occurred at or near the time of year when the amount of daylight was greatest.

4. Tests were made on the shaded and unshaded plants as regards (1) average height, (2) average weight, and (3) average number of capsules produced. In every case the unshaded plants gave a higher figure.

5. As stems grow in length at a more rapid rate in darkness than in light, it might have been expected that the average height of the darkened plants would at least have equaled that of the unshaded ones, but the contrary was the case.—J. ADAMS, *Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, Canada.*

PIER ANDREA SACCARDO

Dr. PIER ANDREA SACCARDO, who died February 12, 1920, was born at Treviso, Italy, in 1845. At the age of 21 he became connected with the Botanic Garden in Padua, where he remained until his death, first as Assistant Director, then as Director (1878) and Professor of Botany in the Royal University of Padua. He gave especial attention to Fungi, and contributed many papers to mycological literature. Among them were *Fungi Veneti novi vel critici*, series I–XII (1873–1882), and *Notae Mycologicae*, series I–XX (1890–1916). In the latter were included descriptions of new species from various regions of North America and from South America. He also published *Fungi Italici autographice delineati* (pls. 1–1280), and issued a set of *exsiccati* under the title *Mycothecae venetae* (cent. I–XI), and was editor and principal contributor to the mycological journal *Michelia*.

When SACCARDO began his labors in mycology, the general works of PERSOON and of FRIES had become antiquated. New systems of classification had been proposed, and descriptions of new genera and species had appeared in publications treating of limited regions and scattered in periodical literature and society transactions. The fame of SACCARDO will rest most largely on the measures he took to meet this situation. He projected and carried through the publication, in one series, of descriptions of all known species of Fungi based in the beginning on 600 separate publications. The first volume of this work (*Sylloge Fungorum omnium hucusque cognitorum*) appeared in 1882, and the task was finished when vol. VIII appeared at the end of 1889, the volumes

averaging about 600 pages each and being provided with keys and adequate indexes to genera, species, and hosts. With the publication of vol. IV he found it necessary to have assistance, and in subsequent volumes CUBONI, MANCINI, BERLESE, DETONI, ED. FISCHER, PAOLETTI, and TREVISAN collaborated. To carry out this plan, however, there was first of all necessary a general system of classification, and the one which he devised and used in the *Sylloge* has been followed in practically all subsequent work in mycology. That it was a natural and perfectly satisfactory one no one would affirm, but it was perhaps the best that could be framed in the present state of knowledge of the Fungi, and will probably remain in use as a practical, workable system until such time as a more natural one can be devised.

The completion of this work did not end SACCARDO's labors. Mycological activity, stimulated by the publication of the *Sylloge*, was such that it quickly became necessary to issue supplementary volumes, the first of which appeared in 1891, the last, a work of 1600 pages, bringing the matter up to the end of 1910, in 1913. P. SYDOW, MUSSAT, D. SACCARDO, TRAVERSO, and TROTTER were collaborators in the preparation of these supplementary volumes, which included 2 volumes (2467 pages) of index to published figures of Fungi. The 22 volumes of the *Sylloge Fungorum* constitute the working handbook of every mycologist.

SACCARDO was a good correspondent and a gracious one. Material was sent to him from all quarters for determination, and he became the court of last resort to many mycologists, and in this way as well as through his publications he gave impetus to the study of Fungi. The effect of his work illustrates again the fact that progress in botany, as in other sciences, is based not only on brilliant research and broad generalization, but also on a large amount of downright drudgery.—

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